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United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
COLORADO FIELD OFFICE
730 SIMMS STREET
ROOM 292
GOLDEN, COLORADO 80401

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IN REPLY REFER TO:

FWE/CO
Mail Stop Golden 65412

MAY 17 1989

Albert E. Whiteman
Area Manager
Department of Energy
Rocky Flats Area Office
Golden, CO 80402

ADMIN RECORD

Dear Mr. Whiteman:

This responds to your April 21, 1989, letter requesting a list of Federal threatened and endangered species which may occur within the area of influence of the Rocky Flats Plant.

To comply with Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, Federal agencies or their designees are required to obtain from the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) information concerning any species or critical habitat, listed or proposed to be listed, which may be present in the area of a proposed construction project. Therefore, we are furnishing you the following list of species which may be present in the concerned area:

FEDERALLY LISTED SPECIES, COLORADO

Species

Mammals: Black-footed ferret (Mustela nigripes)

Historically, the black-footed ferret occurred throughout Colorado. Literature and recent field studies document a close association between prairie dogs and black-footed ferrets. The standard that is used by the Service for determining possible project effects to black-footed ferrets is the disturbance of currently occupied prairie dog habitat. Should any of the activities associated with this project result in an impact to prairie dogs, black-footed ferret surveys may be necessary. As black-footed ferret surveys are considered valid for one year, prairie dog towns surveyed more than one year prior to construction may have to be resurveyed.

The Service would like to bring to your attention species which are candidates for official listing as threatened or endangered species (Federal Register, Vol. 40, No. 181, September 18, 1985, Vol. 50, No. 188, September 27, 1985). While these species presently have no legal protection under the Endangered Species Act (Act), it is within the spirit of the Act to consider project impacts to potentially sensitive candidate species.

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A-SW-002130

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Albert E. Whiteman

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Additionally, we wish to make you aware of the presence of Federal candidates should any be proposed or listed prior to the time that all Federal actions related to the project are completed.

CANDIDATE SPECIES AS OF 1/6/89

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>COMMON NAME</u>	<u>SCIENTIFIC NAME</u>
<u>Reptiles</u>		
2	Texas horned lizard	<u>Phrynosoma cornutum</u>
<u>Birds</u>		
2	White-faced ibis	<u>Plegadis chihi</u>
2	Ferruginous hawk	<u>Buteo regalis</u>
2	Western snowy plover	<u>Charadrius alexandrinus</u> <u>nivosus</u>
2	Mountain plover	<u>Charadrius montanus</u>
2	Long-billed curlew	<u>Numenius americanus</u>
<u>Mammals</u>		
2	Preble's meadow jumping mouse	<u>Zapus hudsonius preblei</u>
2	Swift fox	<u>Vulpes velox</u>

We appreciate your interest in conserving rare species.

If we can be of further assistance, please contact Bill Noonan of my staff at FTS 776-2675 or COM 303-236-2675.

Sincerely,

ACTING *Laurence R. DeWane*

LeRoy W. Carlson
Colorado State Supervisor